

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method of modifying a subscription of a subscriber to a telecommunications service
2 based on subscriber information and service information that are stored in a directory
3 repository, the method comprising the computer-implemented steps of:
4 receiving a modification request to modify the subscription of the subscriber to the
5 telecommunications service;
6 determining, based on privilege information in a privilege token associated with the
7 subscriber that is generated by an authorization service, whether the subscriber
8 has privileges sufficient to carry out the requested modification;
9 receiving, from the directory repository, first subscriber information and first service
10 information representing only such services for which the subscriber is then
11 currently subscribed;
12 modifying the first subscriber information and first service information to reflect the
13 modification;
14 sending the modified information to the directory repository, resulting in creating and
15 storing, in the directory repository, second service information that reflects the
16 modification;
17 generating an engagement request to engage the telecommunications service for the
18 subscriber in order to fulfill the modification request.
- 1 2. A method as recited in Claim 1, further comprising the steps of creating and storing
2 the privilege token by the steps of:
3 receiving a user name associated with the subscriber and mapping the user name to a
4 distinguished name in the directory repository;
5 creating and storing in the privilege token, one or more roles occupied by the
6 subscriber based on role information that is stored in the directory repository.

1 3. A method as recited in Claim 1, further comprising the steps of creating and storing a
2 host object that uniquely identifies the subscriber for the subscriber wherein the host
3 object contains the privilege token corresponding to the subscriber.

1 4. A method as recited in Claim 1, further comprising the steps of subscribing the
2 subscriber to the service by creating and storing a relation of a subscriber object that
3 programmatically represents the subscriber to a service object that programmatically
4 represents the service, and creating and storing one or more attribute values in the
5 relation, wherein the attribute values define the subscription.

1 5. A method of modifying subscriptions of a group of subscribers to one or more
2 telecommunications services based on subscriber information and service information
3 that are stored in a directory repository, the method comprising the computer-
4 implemented steps of:
5 receiving from an administrator of the group, a request to modify the subscriptions of
6 the subscribers to the telecommunications service;
7 determining, based on privilege information in a privilege token that is associated
8 with the administrator and is generated by an authorization service, whether
9 the administrator has privileges sufficient to carry out the requested
10 modification;
11 receiving, from the directory repository, current subscriber information and current
12 service information representing then-current services to which the subscribers
13 are subscribed;
14 modifying the subscriber information and service information to reflect the
15 modifications, resulting in creating and storing, in the directory repository,
16 updated service information that reflects the modifications;
17 generating one or more requests to subscribe the telecommunications service to the
18 group of subscribers to fulfill the request of the administrator.

1 6. A method as recited in Claim 5, wherein the group of subscribers is defined explicitly
2 by creating and storing a named group that contains one or more subscribers as group
3 members.

1 7. A method as recited in Claim 5, wherein the group of subscribers is defined implicitly
2 such that the group comprises one or more subscribers in an object tree of the
3 directory repository who are subordinate in the tree to a container node of the tree.

1 8. A method as recited in Claim 5, further comprising the steps of subscribing one of the
2 subscribers in the group to the service by creating and storing a relation of a
3 subscriber object that programmatically represents the subscriber to a service object
4 that programmatically represents the service, and creating and storing one or more
5 attribute values in the relation, wherein the attribute values define the subscription.

1 9. A method of automatically logging in a subscriber to a telecommunications service
2 based on subscriber information and service information that are stored in a directory
3 repository, the method comprising the computer-implemented steps of:
4 receiving a request to from the subscriber to log in to the telecommunications service;
5 performing authentication to determine whether the subscriber is allowed to log into
6 the telecommunication service;
7 receiving, from the directory repository, a list of all services for which the subscriber
8 is then currently subscribed, including the telecommunications service;
9 automatically logging the subscriber into all services identified in the list.

1 10. A method as recited in Claim 9, wherein automatically logging the subscriber into all
2 services identified in the list comprises the steps of:
3 for each of the services identified in the list:
4 obtaining service information that describes the services from the directory repository;

5 creating and storing a relation between a service object in the directory repository that
6 uniquely identifies and represents each of the services and privileges of the
7 subscriber, and a subscriber object that uniquely represents the subscriber.

1 11. A method as recited in Claim 10, further comprising the steps of storing the privilege
2 token in a service selection gateway for use in subsequent authorization processes
3 relating to the subscriber.

1 12. A method as recited in Claim 10, wherein performing authentication to determine
2 whether the subscriber is allowed to log into the telecommunication service further
3 comprises the steps of:
4 creating and storing a privilege token that uniquely identifies the subscriber;
5 determining, based on privilege information in a privilege token associated with the
6 subscriber that is generated by an authorization service, whether the subscriber
7 has privileges sufficient to carry out the automatic login.

1 13. A method of automatically subscribing a subscriber to a telecommunications service
2 based on subscriber information and service information that are stored in a directory
3 repository, the method comprising the computer-implemented steps of:
4 receiving a request from the subscriber to obtain a list of available
5 telecommunications services;
6 generating a list of only those telecommunications services for which the subscriber
7 has a privilege to subscribe to, based on privilege information and service
8 information that is stored in the directory repository and associated with the
9 subscriber;
10 receiving a subscriber selection of one of the telecommunications services;
11 verifying that the subscriber has privileges that permit the subscriber to subscribe to
12 the selected telecommunications service;
13 creating and storing updated subscription information in the directory repository;
14 generating a request to subscribe the subscriber to the selected telecommunications
15 service based on the updated subscription information.

1 14. A method as recited in Claim 13, further comprising the steps of retrieving a privilege
2 token for the subscriber that identifies a role of the subscriber that maps to one or
3 more privileges of the subscriber, in response to receiving a request to from the
4 subscriber to obtain a list of available telecommunications services, wherein the
5 privileges of the subscriber specify what telecommunications services to which the
6 subscriber is entitled to subscribe.

1 15. A method as recited in Claim 13, wherein generating a list of only those
2 telecommunications services for which the subscriber has a privilege to subscribe to
3 includes the step of generating and providing to the subscriber a custom display page
4 that identifies only those telecommunications services for which the subscriber has a
5 privilege to subscribe.

1 16. A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions for
2 modifying a subscription of a subscriber to a telecommunications service based on
3 subscriber information and service information that are stored in a directory
4 repository, which instructions, when executed by one or more processors, cause the
5 one or more processors to carry out the steps of:
6 receiving a modification request to modify the subscription of the subscriber to the
7 telecommunications service;
8 determining, based on privilege information in a privilege token associated with the
9 subscriber that is generated by an authorization service, whether the subscriber
10 has privileges sufficient to carry out the requested modification;
11 receiving, from the directory repository, first subscriber information and first service
12 information representing only such services for which the subscriber is then
13 currently subscribed;
14 modifying the first subscriber information and first service information to reflect the
15 modification;

16 sending the modified information to the directory repository, resulting in creating and
17 storing, in the directory repository, second service information that reflects the
18 modification;
19 generating an engagement request to engage the telecommunications service for the
20 subscriber in order to fulfill the modification request.

1 17. An apparatus for modifying a subscription of a subscriber to a telecommunications
2 service based on subscriber information and service information that are stored in a
3 directory repository, comprising:
4 means for receiving a modification request to modify the subscription of the
5 subscriber to the telecommunications service;
6 means for determining, based on privilege information in a privilege token associated
7 with the subscriber that is generated by an authorization service, whether the
8 subscriber has privileges sufficient to carry out the requested modification;
9 means for receiving, from the directory repository, first subscriber information and
10 first service information representing only such services for which the
11 subscriber is then currently subscribed;
12 means for modifying the first subscriber information and first service information to
13 reflect the modification;
14 means for sending the modified information to the directory repository, resulting in
15 creating and storing, in the directory repository, second service information
16 that reflects the modification;
17 means for generating an engagement request to engage the telecommunications
18 service for the subscriber in order to fulfill the modification request.

1 18. An apparatus for modifying a subscription of a subscriber to a telecommunications
2 service based on subscriber information and service information that are stored in a
3 directory repository, comprising:
4 a network interface that is coupled to a data network that includes the directory
5 repository for receiving information therefrom;
6 a processor;

one or more stored sequences of instructions which, when executed by the processor,
cause the processor to carry out the steps of:
receiving a modification request to modify the subscription of the subscriber
to the telecommunications service;
determining, based on privilege information in a privilege token associated
with the subscriber that is generated by an authorization service,
whether the subscriber has privileges sufficient to carry out the
requested modification;
receiving, from the directory repository, first subscriber information and first
service information representing only such services for which the
subscriber is then currently subscribed;
modifying the first subscriber information and first service information to
reflect the modification;
sending the modified information to the directory repository, resulting in
creating and storing, in the directory repository, second service
information that reflects the modification;
generating an engagement request to engage the telecommunications service
for the subscriber in order to fulfill the modification request.

19. A method of modifying a subscription of a subscriber to a telecommunications service
based on information stored in a directory repository, the method comprising the
computer-implemented steps of:
receiving a request to identify one or more services to which a subscriber is
subscribed, based on a prior request to modify the subscription of the
subscriber to the telecommunications service;
generating a list of the one or more services to which the subscriber is currently
subscribed, based on group membership of the subscriber, one or more roles
occupied by the subscriber, and authorization information associated with the
subscriber that is stored in the directory repository;

generating individual service information for each of the one or more services in the list, based on subscriber information and service information that is stored in the directory repository, for use in automatically subscribing the subscriber to a service that is represented by the individual service information.

20. A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions for modifying a subscription of a subscriber to a telecommunications service based on subscriber information and service information that are stored in a directory repository, which instructions, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to carry out the steps of:

receiving a request to identify one or more services to which a subscriber is subscribed, based on a prior request to modify the subscription of the subscriber to the telecommunications service;

generating a list of the one or more services to which the subscriber is currently subscribed, based on group membership of the subscriber, one or more roles occupied by the subscriber, and authorization information associated with the subscriber that is stored in the directory repository;

generating individual service information for each of the one or more services in the list, based on subscriber information and service information that is stored in the directory repository, for use in automatically subscribing the subscriber to a service that is represented by the individual service information.

21. An apparatus for modifying a subscription of a subscriber to a telecommunications service based on subscriber information and service information that are stored in a directory repository, comprising:

means for receiving a request to identify one or more services to which a subscriber is subscribed, based on a prior request to modify the subscription of the subscriber to the telecommunications service;

7 means for generating a list of the one or more services to which the subscriber is
8 currently subscribed, based on group membership of the subscriber, one or
9 more roles occupied by the subscriber, and authorization information
10 associated with the subscriber that is stored in the directory repository;
11 means for generating individual service information for each of the one or more
12 services in the list, based on subscriber information and service information
13 that is stored in the directory repository, for use in automatically subscribing
14 the subscriber to a service that is represented by the individual service
15 information.

- 1 22. An apparatus for modifying a subscription of a subscriber to a telecommunications
2 service based on subscriber information and service information that are stored in a
3 directory repository, comprising:
4 a directory-enabled service selection framework that is coupled to the directory
5 repository for receiving stored information therefrom;
6 a processor;
7 one or more stored sequences of instructions in the framework which, when executed
8 by the processor, cause the processor to carry out the steps of:
9 receiving a request to identify one or more services to which a subscriber is
10 subscribed, based on a prior request to modify the subscription of the
11 subscriber to the telecommunications service;
12 generating a list of the one or more services to which the subscriber is
13 currently subscribed, based on group membership of the subscriber,
14 one or more roles occupied by the subscriber, and authorization
15 information associated with the subscriber that is stored in the
16 directory repository;
17 generating individual service information for each of the one or more services
18 in the list, based on subscriber information and service information that
19 is stored in the directory repository, for use in automatically
20 subscribing the subscriber to a service that is represented by the
21 individual service information.